Where can International Health Take You?
The Department of International Health

Since 1961, our mission has been to protect the lives of underserved populations across the globe. We achieve this by understanding health problems and developing efficient, affordable means of preventing and treating disease. To serve the world's most vulnerable populations, we draw on all public health disciplines. We conduct research, educate scientists and health professionals, guide health policy and public health practice, and build institutional capacity that can result in sustained, improved health for all.

International Health Graduates

For over 50 years, the Department of International Health has trained global health leaders. Our alumni hold principal roles at international agencies, ministries of health, research institutions, foundations, and volunteer organizations.

To help prospective students see the opportunities available to our graduates, we have highlighted alumni from each of our program areas and degree programs.

Program Areas

- Global Disease Epidemiology and Control
- Health Systems
- Human Nutrition
- Social and Behavioral Interventions

Degrees Offered

- Master of Science in Public Health (MSPH)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)
- Master of Health Science (MHS) in Health Economics

Additional master’s programs

- MSPH/Peace Corps
- MSPH/Registered Dietitian Program
- MSPH/MA Dual Degree with School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS)

www.jhsph.edu/InternationalHealth
James Fuller, MSPH ‘11
Job title: PhD candidate and Graduate Student Research Assistant
Employer: The University of Michigan School of Public Health
Job description: I manage a geographic information system for a research project in rural Ecuador. We map houses, roads, latrines, rivers, and sources of drinking water.
Current research: My project looks at context-dependent risk factors (effect modification) for diarrheal diseases. I employ spatial and longitudinal analysis, as well as transmission modeling.

Kriti Jain, MSPH ‘11
Job title: Associate Technical Advisor, Sexual, Reproductive Health, and TB Department
Employer: Population Services International (PSI)
Job description: I am part of a 5-person team managing a 15-country maternal health project focusing on increasing access to, and choice among, high-quality contraceptive methods and reducing unsafe abortion. My duties include managing donor reporting processes, administering a health services database, proposal writing and review, and enhancing data management in-country.
Current research: My passion has always been the effect of gender inequality on health. I am currently working on a mixed methods paper examining the effect of women’s employment on empowerment in rural Nepal with a team of JHSPH researchers.

Brandon Brown, PhD ‘11
Job title: Tenure-Track Lecturer and the Undergraduate Director
Employer: University of California, Irvine, Program in Public Health, Department of Population Health and Disease Prevention
Job description: I teach the creation and approval of new curriculum in our department as the Chair of the curriculum committee, and I teach several courses at the graduate and undergraduate level (ethics, international health, advances in global health, honors research, international epidemiology). I’m also the lead of the global health research education and translation program.
Current research: My current projects include those funded by the NIH (Syphilis: Translating technology to understand a neglected epidemic, Acceptability of HPV vaccine and HPV prevalence among female sex workers in Tijuana, Mexico), and Merck pharmaceuticals investigator initiated studies (The role of genital warts in HIV acquisition among MSM in Peru, HPV prevalence in multiple anatomical sites among MSM in Peru), and a collaborator with other courses such as Biostatistics, Zoonoses, and enhancing data management in country.
Dissertation: Acceptability of HPV vaccine and HPV prevalence among female sex workers in Peru, Peru

Cesar Gavidia, PhD ‘09, DVM, MPH ‘02
Job title: Veterinarian and Associate Professor
Employer: National University of San Marcos, Lima, Peru, Veterinary School, Veterinary Epidemiology Laboratory in the Animal Health and Public Health Division
Job description: I lecture at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels. I am the Coordinator of the Veterinary Epidemiology course and a collaborator with other courses such as Biostatistics, Zoonoses, Parasitology and Research Introduction.
Current research: I work with zoonotic parasites (Echinococcus granulosus/Cystic Echinococcosis, Taenia solium/Cysticercosis, Chagas Disease, Cryptosporidium). I do field epidemiology, animal models, transmission dynamics, animal clinical trials (treatment, vaccine), and pilot control programs.
Dissertation: Cystic Echinococcosis in Peru: Human prevalence study and chemotherapy evaluation in sheep

Kriti Jain (far right) during a health information session in India.
The Health Systems Program supports urban health project Haytmanek (back right) at a women’s group meeting during a visit to a USAID-Global Disease Epidemiology & Control Program practice family planning.

Family planning programs comply with U.S. laws that ensure women are able to make free and informed decisions about whether and how to practice family planning. Couples who access family planning services do so voluntarily and are involved with making sure USAID/India’s maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS programming. I support multiple activities within the health office’s diverse portfolio in India, including family planning/reproductive health, information technology.

Laura Steinhardt, PhD '10, MPH '02
Job title: Epidemiologist
Employer: CDC
Job description: I currently work on the research team of the Malaria Branch at CDC in Atlanta. I completed the Epidemiologic Intelligence Service (EIS) program last June.

My research is very interested in malaria case management in low-resource settings, and elimination strategies for malaria. As malaria transmission decreases, it will be important to be creative about how we prevent, find, and treat cases of malaria, whether they are symptomatic or not. Dr. Steinhardt conducts verbal autopsies in Madagascar as part of a response to malaria outbreaks in the south of the country.

Beth Haytmanek, MHS ’08
Job title: Health Officer
Employer: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)/India
Job description: I support multiple activities within the health office’s diverse portfolio in India, including family planning/productive health, maternal and child health, and HIV/AIDS programming.

Current research: I’ve been involved with making sure USAID/India’s family planning programs comply with U.S. laws that ensure women and couples who access family planning services do so voluntarily and are able to make free and informed decisions about whether and how to practice family planning.

Lauren Wu, MHS ’10
Job title: Policy Advisor
Employer: National Vaccine Program Office in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, WHI
Job description: I coordinate federal agencies and offices involved in immunization and vaccine activities, and I work with stakeholders and partners on immunization policy projects. Projects deal specifically with the 2010 National Vaccine Plan, adult immunization, and health information technology.

Current research: I’m interested in possible policy solutions to barriers to improving adult immunization. A related article of mine that was recently published, “Variation in adult vaccination policies across Europe: An overview from VENICE network on vaccine recommendations, funding and coverage,” published in the journal Vaccine.

Dr. Ghaﬀar’s advice to International Health students: First, doctoral students should publish as soon as they can. Don’t wait for primary data—secondary data analysis is a great way to learn the scientific process, and it will quickly teach you how to write and disseminate your work.

Secondly, develop your skills. The instrument most associated with medical doctors is a stethoscope; for public health scientists, it’s the computer. The campus is the best place to develop the set of skills you’ll need every day of your scientific career. For non-native English speakers: As one myself, I want to tell you not to let it be a barrier in your career and studies. Work to speak and write the language well, but don’t let some imperfections limit your aspirations. Remember, most of the world’s people are non-native English speakers.

Abdul Ghaﬀar, PhD ’01
Job title: Executive Director
Employer: The Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, WHO
Job description: The Alliance works to make health policy and systems research available and used in developing countries to improve health and health systems. To this end, the Alliance is building WHO’s health systems strategy to facilitate the uptake of the best evidence by health policymakers in the developing world.

Academic Focus: Health systems performance, health and poverty, demand for health, health financing, economic analysis of health programs, private sector analysis, with a focus in topic areas related to primary care, maternal, neonatal, and child health, refugee, and disaster response; injury prevention and control, and American Indian health.

Steinhardt conducting verbal autopsies in Madagascar as part of a response to a malaria outbreak in the south of the country.
THE HUMAN NUTRITION PROGRAM

Nhan Tran, PhD '07, MHS '04
Job title: Manager at the Alliance for Health Policy & Systems Research, World Health Organization, Health Systems and Services Cluster

Job description: I manage a portfolio of grants for implementation research and I’m responsible for coordinating current programs of work related to implementation research across five departments of WHO. I also lead the development of guidance, curricula, and methods for implementation research, and liaise with donor agencies to help align implementation research priorities.

Current research: One of my current interests is implementation research to identify and overcome barriers to implementation and scale-up of effective interventions for maternal and child health, including the following:

• use of mobile technologies to enhance delivery of health services
• strategies to increase accountability among service providers
• recruitment and retention of health workers in rural areas

Dissertation: Evaluating an intervention to prevent motorcycle injuries in Malaysia: Process, performance, and policy

Suzanne Van Hulle, MHS '08
Job title: Regional Technical Advisor for Health and HIV for West Africa

Employer: Catholic Relief Services

Job description: I provide technical assistance to health programs in 13 countries in West Africa, mainly in the area of infectious diseases (including programs in malaria, tuberculosis, HIV, and neglected tropical diseases), as well as nutrition and maternal, newborn and child health. Technical assistance can include designing and writing new project proposals, promoting lessons learned and health innovations across the region, and assisting in baseline surveys and evaluations. I also represent CRS regional health programs in partner and donor interactions.

Current research: Recently, nearly all countries in West Africa have switched their national policies on treatment of malaria. Instead of treating based on symptoms presented, treatment is now based on a positive diagnostic test. I’ll be involved in CRS research on the key determinants of the use and acceptance of these test results. CRS will also investigate how well communities follow these new rapid diagnostic testing policies. Results from this research will be relevant to community-based malaria programs worldwide.

Van Hulle holding a child in Eastern Sierra Leone where she was managing a variety of CRS health programs. She is joined by several traditional birth attendants and other influential women in the community.

Dissertation: Evaluating an intervention to prevent motorcycle injuries in Malaysia: Process, performance, and policy

Daniel Roth, MD, PhD '11
Job title: Staff physician at the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) Assistant Professor of Pediatrics and Nutritional Sciences at the University of Toronto

Job duties: I am a clinician-scientist at SickKids. My work involves clinical care, research, and teaching. I am a general pediatrician who after years in the hospital, I’ve taken on an interest in the perinatal pediatric medicine ward at SickKids. In my clinical work, I conduct clinical studies on nutrition and maternal-infant health in South Asia.

Current research interests: I am primarily interested in vitamin D and calcium nutrition during pregnancy, and the role of these two nutrients in maternal and infant health in South Asia. For example, in one current project, we are developing a maternal micronutrient supplement that combines iron and calcium in a unique formula, with the aim of reducing calcium–iron interactions in the intestine.

Dissertation: Vitamin D supplementation in pregnant and non-pregnant women in Dhaka, Bangladesh: Pharmacokinetic and safety studies

Amy M. Branum, PhD '11
Job title: Health Statistician

Employer: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Health Statistics, Office of Analysis and Epidemiology in the Infant, Child, and Women's Health Statistics Branch

Job description: I am responsible for planning and conducting novel research relating to child health and nutrition using national surveys and population-based data. I also perform manuscript reviews for several journals, mentor interns and fellows, present research at conferences, and sit on a federal committee that gives advice and input to the National Children’s Study.

Current research: My main focus currently is on descriptions and determinants of dietary intake among US children, particularly fruit and vegetable intake. My co-author and I recently finished a paper examining important sources (those that contribute most to the diet) of fruit and vegetables in child and adolescent diets, including vegetables obtained from mixed dishes like pizza.

Dissertation: Fruit and vegetable intake in US children and adolescents: Measurement error and determinants

Erin Braunscheidel, MHS '09, RD
Job title: Special Projects Coordinator

Employer: University of Maryland Extension, Food Supplement Nutrition Education Program (Maryland’s SNAP-Ed program)

Job description: I coordinate state-wide nutrition education programs including the development of nutrition education curriculum and social media outreach programs. I also coordinate community nutrition rotations for dietetic interns and undergraduates and graduate students.

Project highlight: Text2BHealty—a mobile health nutrition education program. Our target audience includes parents of elementary school-aged children. Participants receive targeted text messages with nutrition and physical activity nudges that are relevant to their local surroundings and community.

Human Nutrition

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Human Nutrition
Adetayo Omoni, PhD ’11
Job title: Technical Advisor, Monitoring & Evaluation
Employer: Abt Associates
Job description: I provide technical assistance for research and evaluation activities for bilateral projects in the international health division.
Current research: I’m supporting research and evaluation activities for the mid-line assessment of the Partnership to Transform Health Systems (PATHS2) project in Nigeria and the baseline assessment for the Scaling Up Family Planning (SUFP) project in Zambia, which are both funded by the United Kingdom Department for International Development.

Dissertation: Maternal nutritional status, total body and extracellular water, and placental weight in rural Bangladesh: A pathway to birth weight

Alison Gernand, PhD ’11, RD
Job title: Postdoctoral Associate
Employer: University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology
Job description: I conduct public health research on nutritional issues in pregnancy. Some of my regular activities include study management, data analysis, and presentation of findings at scientific meetings and in peer-reviewed publications.
Current research: I’m investigating the relationship between maternal vitamin D status and adverse pregnancy outcomes such as fetal growth restriction and placental pathologies.
Dissertation: Maternal nutritional status, total body and extracellular water, and placental weight in rural Bangladesh: A pathway to birth weight

Lara Ha, PhD ’07, MHS ’03
Job title: Health Technical Advisor for DR Congo
Employer: International Rescue Committee
Job description: I provide technical support to our health programs in the DRC, which are mostly focused on post-conflict health systems strengthening, with some emergency response.
Current research: I’ve contributed to an IRC evaluation of a results-based financing project in Katanga Province, DRC, and an evaluation of a multimedia tool for training of health care providers on clinical care for sexual assault survivors. My interests within our health systems strengthening work have been focused on governance in health systems, including increasing transparency and accountability to users through strengthening participation of community health management committees in health facility management.
Dissertation: Diabetes prevention in northwestern Ontario First Nations: A multi-institutional program to improve diet and increase physical activity

Ashley Jackson, MSPH ’10
Job title: Program Associate for Monitoring, Evaluation & Research, RESPOND Project
Employer: EngenderHealth
Job description: I use qualitative and quantitative data to monitor, evaluate, and inform the RESPOND Project’s work to expand access to family planning services. I travel frequently to East and West Africa to collaborate with Ministries of Health, conduct studies, and train local staff.
Research highlight: During my master’s practicum for the SBI program, I led formative research on gender-based violence and HIV in Tanzania for FHI 360. I worked with youth to generate the concept and script for an HIV prevention spot that aired on Tanzanian TV: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8TrAj6Hobv8
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Social & Behavioral Interventions (SBI)

Social & behavioral interventions program provides leadership in the field of formative research to design more effective behavioral change interventions for primary health care programs in low- and high-income countries. Research by SBI faculty focuses on the implementation of behavior change interventions at the household and community levels across all aspects of global health.

Academic Focus: The combined use of qualitative and quantitative methods is a defining characteristic of the program. Students gain specialized expertise in the development, implementation, and evaluation of disease prevention and control in such areas as HIV prevention, nutritional interventions, malaria control, and a host of other topics, as well as in the enhancement of health in developing countries.

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Erica Layer, MSPH ’12

Job title: Process Evaluation Coordinator

Employer: Research to Prevention an HIV prevention project funded by USAID based at the Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs.

Job description: I am the process evaluation coordinator for a large randomized controlled trial evaluating combination HIV prevention in Tanzania. The study assesses the effectiveness of a combination of HIV prevention strategies that target the biobehavioral, biomedical and structural level. I am based in Dar es Salaam where I coordinate with USAID, implementing partners and local research partners.

Current research: I am interested in maximizing the effectiveness of HIV prevention interventions in Africa. For my MSPH practicum I conducted a qualitative study in Iringa, Tanzania, assessing women’s perceptions of prevention interventions in Africa. For my MSPH practicum I conducted a qualitative study in Iringa, Tanzania, assessing women’s perceptions of prevention interventions in Africa. I am currently working on a qualitative study with the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention to assess the effectiveness of existing combination interventions on key populations.

Layer conducting an interview in Tanzania as part of her master’s practicum on HIV prevention interventions.

Tonia Poteat, PhD ’12

Job title: Senior Advisor for Key Populations

Employer: Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator in the U.S. Department of State

Job description: I provide overall leadership and guidance on the development, implementation, and evaluation of strategies and interventions for key populations for the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). Key Populations include men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, and commercial sex workers.

Current research: In response to Secretary Clinton’s recent speech at the International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC, in July 2012, I am working on expanding the programming and implementation science agenda for key populations within PEPFAR. Key Populations include men who have sex with men, people who inject drugs, and commercial sex workers.

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Disertation: The Role of Stigma and Discrimination in Health Care Utilization and HIV Risk among Transgender Adults

Shams El Arifeen, MBBS, DrPH ’97

Job title: Director and Senior Scientist Centre for Child and Adolescent Health

Employer: International Centre for Diarrheal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B)

Job description: I work on child, neonatal and maternal health, with an emphasis on health services and health systems research, and monitoring and evaluations. What I find most rewarding is being able to work with the national government and civil society and to help make change happen.

Advice to students: A JHSPH degree is a wonderful thing to have, but the skills that you can learn there are exceptional. The school is a great place to learn from both the faculty and the very diverse student body.

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Dissertation: A community-based Acute respiratory control program in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico

Linda Lloyd, DrPH ’92

Job title: Director, Center for Research, The Institute for Palliative Medicine at San Diego Hospice

Adjunct Faculty of the Graduate School of Public Health, San Diego State University

Job description: I direct the Institute’s research portfolio and manage a team of scientists who conduct clinical trials and psycho-social research. As one of the few laboratories in the country investigating palliative care and end-of-life issues, my team focuses on improving quality of care and quality of life for both patients and families, including symptom control and mental and spiritual well-being. My center also contributes to the Institute’s training mandate. We help train over 4,000 physicians, nurses, social workers, and spiritual counselors a year on end-of-life issues.

Current research: The Reflections Project. I am very excited about an ongoing project that draws on the qualitative training I received from Hopkins. For the past 10 years, medical residents at the San Diego Hospice have produced visual and auditory expressions of what their palliative care training meant to them as physicians. The Institute has always wanted to systematically analyze this data, but no coding scheme existed for the subject matter. In 2009, I joined the Center and initiated the research to develop such a system. We recently finished the development of the coding scheme, and are now in the validation stage of the project.

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**Quick Facts about the Department of International Health**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Annual student enrollment</th>
<th>PhD</th>
<th>15-25</th>
<th>MSPH</th>
<th>60-75</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DrPH</td>
<td>5-8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MHS</td>
<td>5-10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Countries where students interned last year: 27
Countries where IH has conducted research: 50+

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Length of programs</th>
<th>MSPH</th>
<th>1.5 to 2 years</th>
<th>PhD and DrPH</th>
<th>5 years</th>
<th>MHS</th>
<th>9 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Is a master’s degree required for your doctoral programs?
Yes, for all doctoral programs. Human Nutrition will accept applicants who have 1 year’s worth of master’s experience, dietetic training, medical training, or some other relevant experience.

**Certificates offered**

- For degree and non-degree students
  - Certificate in Global Health (online)
  - Certificate in Tropical Medicine
  - Certificate in Public Health Economics
  - Certificate in Public Health Training for American Indian Health Professionals
- For degree students only
  - Certificate in Vaccine Science and Policy
  - Certificate in Humanitarian Assistance

For more information and to apply go to: [www.jhsph.edu/InternationalHealth](http://www.jhsph.edu/InternationalHealth)